

## **AGREEMENT on:**

### **Joint PhD Training Program in Dental Public Health**

#### **Between:**

1. WHO Collaborating Center for Training and Research in Dental Public Health. Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences. Tehran, Iran. Represented by Dr. Mohammad H. Khoshnevisan.
2. Adjunct Professor Jorma Virtanen, Institute of Dentistry, University of Helsinki, Finland.
3. Dr Akbar Fazel, School of Dentistry, Tehran University of Medical Sciences (TUMS), Tehran, Iran.

#### **Aims of the agreement are as follows:**

1. To train five Iranian PhD students in Dental Public Health by local supervisors with cooperation of international supervisors and holding complementary courses (Please see attachment 1).
2. To conduct population-based research on priority areas of oral public health in Iran.
3. To provide adequate training to graduate PhD students in Dental Public Health in order to acquire internationally acceptable recognition.

#### **Implementation of the joint program**

1. This joint program will be established in cooperation of all parties involved. The WHO Collaborating Center for Training and Research in Dental Public Health will support the project in any way possible. However, no financial obligation is expected at this time.
2. Tehran University of Medical Sciences will award the PhD certificate. The minimum requirement for graduation is acceptance or publication of two international manuscripts and submission of the third one. The students without an interventional part in their research should have three papers accepted. The PhD students should also prepare and defend a dissertation according to guidelines determined by TUMS curriculum (see attachment 2).
3. Adjunct Professor Jorma Virtanen, University of Helsinki is responsible for coordination of the joint program and introduction of international supervisors and possible co-authors for each one of the five PhD students.
4. Local and international supervisors will collaborate in supervising and support the student in different process of academic and research activities such as article writing and completion of the research project.
5. TUMS will provide financial support for the joint program.

#### **Current status of PhD students**

At present (February 2011), the students have prepared their preliminary research protocols under supervision of the local supervisors. The protocols shall be finalized under supervision of international supervisors.

The students have passed all course works and classes according to the local PhD curriculum (attachment 3). In addition, the first international course has taken place in November 2010. Additional supplementary courses will be presented and included in the program by international supervisors (attachment 1).

## Timetables and deadlines

1. The preliminary protocols have been sent to international supervisors in Helsinki October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010. The first major comments have been given by October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2010. The study protocols have been reviewed in collaboration with the local and international supervisors during the first joint meeting in November 2010.
2. The students have started baseline data collection (and implementing interventions) immediately after their protocols were approved. The deadline for completion of pilot study and start of data collection was January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011. The students should have their data entered and cleaned by the end of March 2011. Working on the first manuscript under supervision of local and international supervisors will start by April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011. The deadline for submission of the first manuscript is June, 2011. There will be an opportunity for international supervisors to be present as invited speakers in a Congress of Oral Epidemiology in Tehran, Iran in April 2011.
3. The students will start their follow-up data collection in June/July 2011 lasting for 2 months. The students should have their data cleaned and entered by the end of July, 2011.
4. The students will start working on their second manuscript under supervision of local and international supervisors by July/August, 2011. The second manuscript should be submitted by the end of October 2011. After that, they will start working with the third manuscript.
5. The deadline for the submission of the third manuscript will be the end of 2011. The students will continue working on the three manuscripts until they have at least two of them accepted and can prepare their dissertation.

## Financial support

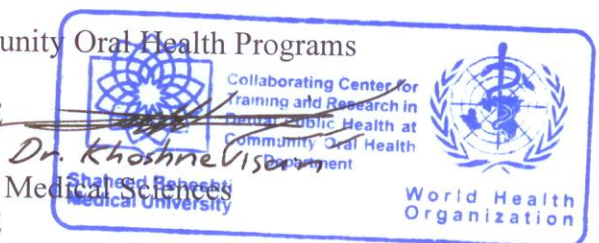
1. For each of the courses, the international supervisors will receive between 1500 to 2000 USD. Two to three supplementary courses will be planned for 2011. Tehran University of Medical Sciences also will pay all the travelling costs, accommodation and daily allowance. The coordinator will receive between 1500 to 2000 USD.
2. The international supervisors will receive 1000 to 1500 USD for each student upon the submission of the first manuscripts.
3. The international supervisors will receive 1000 to 1500 USD for each student upon the graduation of the students during 2012.

## This agreement will be signed by the following parties in February 2011:

The head of the WHO Collaborative Center for Community Oral Health Programs and Research, Tehran, Iran

**Dr Mohammad H. Khoshnevisan**

SIGNATURE



The Dean of School of Dentistry, Tehran University of Medical Sciences

**Dr Akbar Fazel**

SIGNATURE

*A - Fazel*

Coordinator, University of Helsinki, Finland

**Professor Jorma Virtanen**

SIGNATURE

*Jorma Virtanen*